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ARE TAXI TYRANTS KEEPING A 'BROKEN' SYSTEM ALIVE?

TWO SIDES WAGE WAR OVER PROPOSED REFORMS TO CLEAN UP TORONTO'S TAXI INDUSTRY PAGE 3

Duffy rails against PMO 'conspiracy'

Senator claims the prime minister's office forced him to accept $90K cheque with threat of expulsion PAGE 7

No recognition for old writer

Remember the name: author Cormac McCarthy is the man behind some great drama movies, such as No Country for Old Men, with two more on the way PAGE 15

Gardiner to get worse before it gets better

With $100M in short-term repairs on the way, expect to be mired in traffic until at least 2015 PAGE 6

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Clip shows final seconds before cops shoot man

Inquest. Man one of three mentally ill people with sharp objects that have been killed by cops

Reyal Jardine-Douglas tried to flee through the back doors of a bus before he pulled a knife and advanced toward a police officer, security video shows.

The final moments of the man's life were viewed Tuesday at a coroner's inquest into three fatal police shootings. Jardine-Douglas, Sylvia Klibingaitis and Michael Eligon all had mental-health issues and were carrying sharp objects when they were shot by Toronto police.

Jardine-Douglas boarded a bus on Victoria Park Avenue on Aug. 29, 2010. He had been behaving erratically for days, prompting his sister to call 911 to admit him to hospital.

Security video shows Jardine-Douglas, 25, sitting near the back of the bus calmly. After two police cars force the driver to pull over, Jardine-Douglas becomes agitated and begins to slam on the back doors.

When he is unable to leave, Jardine-Douglas rifles through his bag and removes a knife. Two officers board at the front of the bus, but Jardine-Douglas eventually chases them off.

Bus driver Ralph Charles testified that when the officer initially boarded, he said in a calm voice, "Can you come with me, sir?" But after he saw the object in Jardine-Douglas' hand, he pulled his gun and began to yell, "Drop the knife!"

As Jardine-Douglas continued to advance, the officer fired two or three shots. Jardine-Douglas fell slightly and began to get back up, with the object still in his hand, Charles said. The officer fired again. That time, he did not get up.

Elizabeth Phillips saw the shooting from the balcony of her nearby home. Contrary to the bus driver's testimony, Phillips said she heard six shots total — four shots, then a pause, then two more.

The SIU cleared the officer of any wrongdoing.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HAIL THE DUCKSLAYER

The Leafs congratulate Phil Kessel on his hat trick against the Anaheim Ducks in Toronto on Tuesday. Kessel was key in landing their 4-2 victory. Story, page 24. LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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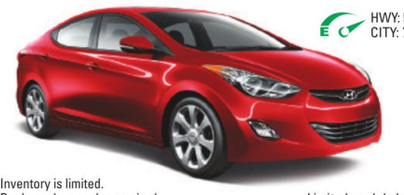

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The great taxicab fight

Taxi! City drivers at odds over proposed reforms

JESSICA SMITH
jessica.smith@metronews.ca

Cab drivers and the other players in the taxi industry are divided over the city's proposed taxi reforms — as one group launched a campaign against them, another is fighting to get reforms approved.

The city has proposed gradually transitioning three types of taxi licences into a single Toronto Taxicab License. The Toronto taxi industry is large, with more than 4,800 cabs making 60,000 trips a day, grossing an estimated $1.5 million daily, according to the city.

A group called the Toronto Taxi Alliance (TTA) has launched a campaign against the proposed licence reforms, warning the changes will increase fares and reduce quality of service.

The TTA includes all of the major taxi brokerages, many standard taxi plate holders, fleet operators and about half the city's ambassador taxi drivers. Jim Bell, president of Diamond Taxi, and Gail Souter, president of Beck Taxi, led a media event near city hall Tuesday. They were joined by about 60 taxi drivers in bright orange shirts.

They announced the launch of Hail Cabs, a "mass advertising campaign to communicate to Torontonians that proposed city hall reforms are putting their reliable taxi system at risk."

"Fares are at risk. Reliable service is at risk. Safe rides are at risk. Short wait times are at risk," said Souter. "Our response? Don't fix what's not broken."

However, drivers like Imran Chowdhury disagree.

"In Toronto, the industry is badly broken; it's corrupted," said Chowdhury in a phone interview. "The majority of drivers, who make their living driving, support (the city's) proposal."

Chowdhury, a shift driver of 15 years, organized a petition in support of the city's plan, signed by more than 400 drivers. Their new group is called the Toronto Taxi Drivers Forum. According to city staff, they were among the more than 1,000 drivers that showed up at a consultation meeting last week. Chowdhury accused the industry group of distorting the truth in order to hold onto the their own benefits from the current system. He claims the reform will actually improve service — by ensuring the taxicab licence holders are actually the ones driving their cabs — and reduce fares, by cutting out the role of the "middlemen" in the system.

Jim Bell, president of Diamond Taxi, speaks at the Toronto Taxi Alliance press conference Tuesday. Jafar Mirsalari, an Ambassador Driver for Beck, seen on the left, also spoke. COURTESY OF TTC

One of the industry's major objections to the proposed reforms is the requirement that taxis under the new licences be wheelchair accessible.

In her speech at the Toronto Taxi Alliance press conference, Souter said accessible taxis are not only gas guzzlers, but expensive and the requirement would force the city to raise taxi fares to keep the industry afloat.

Jafar Mirsalari, a driver for Beck Taxi, gave an emotional speech about how he is not discriminated against in the taxi industry for the disability that forces him to use crutches. He spoke about how the disability would prevent him from driving an accessible cab. "It would shut the door from people like me from being able to get into this industry," he said.

However, Mirsalari would not be affected by the proposed reform.

The city is only planning to make drivers using the new licences drive an accessible vehicle — and current drivers don't ever have to make that change.

New accessible taxis that are more fuel-efficient are being designed today, said Vanessa Fletcher, project manager for the city's Taxicab Review. She said the city expects the reduction in the "middlemen" of the industry will offset the higher costs drivers will have to pay for accessible vehicles.

'It costs everyone'

Standard plates and middlemen

Toronto's current system allows standard taxi licence holders to lease their plates — which has led to a complicated system involving designated agents, garages and subleases. The majority of taxi licences are held by people who don't drive them.

"The (new Toronto Taxicab License) will be more economically efficient because there's no middlemen," said Vanessa Fletcher, project manager for the city's Taxicab Review. "It costs everyone at the fare box to keep these people there."

Under the proposed system, when a licence is sold or transferred it would become a new "Toronto Taxicab License" with different rules. The licence holder would have to drive the taxi, but could take on some secondary drivers to take the rest of the shifts.

Standard taxi licence holders can sell their licences, which currently go for $250,000 to $300,000. Under the new system, licences can still be sold but the value might fall, which would impact the drivers and investors who own plates.

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Bad measurements adding up

Fraud not suspected. Total cost to taxpayers of errors over the years could reach six or seven figures

Toronto has wasted thousands of dollars because city inspectors have inaccurately measured sidewalks, the auditor general has found.

The squandered money has ended up in the pockets of contractors: for sidewalk replacements and some other road work, the city determines the price based on the size of the surface.

There is no suggestion of fraud. According to the auditor, Jeff Griffiths, the bad measurements have been caused by both flawed methods and the widespread use of a cheap and faulty measuring wheel.

"Based on our observations and discussions with a number of staff, it appears that inspectors are using low cost measuring wheels that are prone to breaking down. As such, there likely were inaccurate measurements taken," Griffiths wrote in a report. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Methodology

North York workers did not measure the entire sidewalk

- Instead, they measured sections and "approximated" the average width, a method that is "not accurate" given that the width is not always constant.

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Damien Waddell holds the broken handlebar that pierced his left thigh, while posing with Good Samaritans Jonathan Hock, left, and Michel Mersereau. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Good Samaritans. Cyclist saved after freak accident

For Damien Waddell, the night of Sept. 23 was marked by "one big unlucky and many, many luckies," not the least of which is the fact that he's alive and still has two legs.

He realizes that were it not for the help of a number of Good Samaritans — two especially — he would likely have bled to death on Wellesley Street following a freak bicycle accident.

Waddell, was cycling home when he saw a car parked in the bike lane. He went up on the sidewalk to get around it and when he came down again, his bike suffered a catastrophic failure: the handlebars broke. One end punctured his left leg.

"I fell down and I was thinking I was just going to be embarrassed so I stood up and was getting ready to move my bike, when I looked down and there was this big hole in my pants, which was getting darker."

A passing cyclist, Jonathon Hock, noticed Waddell and rushed over. He said a young woman was by Waddell's side calling 911. Hock said a motorcyclist then stopped to help.

Terrifying

"The blood was coming out and I could feel my boot filling up with it."
Damien Waddell, accident victim

Michel Mersereau said he didn't even bother to take off his helmet. As a motorcycle safety instructor who gets certified every year in first aid, he knew there was no time.

With Hock's help "we cinched it up near his groin, as tight as we could. We were both holding his leg up and then someone gave us a box that we could prop his leg up on."

Waddell was kept covered and warm. People continued talking to him to maintain his consciousness. The ambulance came soon and he was taken to St. Michael's Hospital. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Anonymous nurse

Mom searches for stranger who helped save kid

Fatima Mohamed says she's eternally grateful to a quick-thinking stranger who she's never seen and whose name she doesn't even know.

"She helped my husband through what were the scariest moments of his life," Mohamed said. "I can't find enough words to tell you how grateful I am that she did what she did."

On Oct. 1, Mohamed's husband, Eric Williams, was driving their son and daughter home from their grandmother's house when his Volkswagen Jetta was in a head-on collision at the intersection of 14th Avenue and Chatelaine Drive in Markham.

As Williams dialed 911 with a broken wrist, a stranger rushed to his side. The woman, who said she was a nurse, asked to check on 10-year-old Aliyah Mohamed, who was limp in the back seat.

The nurse said Aliyah was unconscious but breathing, and needed to be laid down on the grass nearby. As they waited for the ambulances to arrive, the nurse took charge of the scene. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tim Bosma. Family weeps before accused killers

Accused killers Dellen Millard and Mark Smich avoided eye contact with the parents and widow of murder victim Tim Bosma during emotional court appearances on Tuesday.

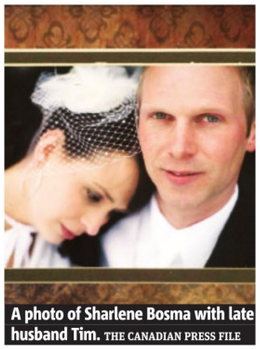
Three dozen family members and friends of Bosma appeared in court to see them at a routine scheduling date.

No date has been set for the pretrial or trial of the men accused of killing the Ancaster father.

Bosma's widow Sharlene and parents sat in the front row of the public gallery, just feet from the two men, each of whom are charged with first degree murder.

Bosma, 32, left his rural Ancaster home May 6 for a test drive of the 2007 Dodge Ram truck he was trying to sell over the Internet. His burned body was found at Millard's Ayr farm.

In court on Tuesday, both of the accused men avoided looking in the direction of Bosma's weeping family members.



A photo of Sharlene Bosma with late husband Tim. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Smich, of Oakville, appeared first in a Plexiglas cubicle in court.

He kept his eyes down as he slumped in his seat.

Millard, of Oakville, appeared preppy and confident as he was led in by a burly court officer. He is heir to a family which founded and ran Millard Air, a charter airline.

Neither of the men spoke in court.

They are due to appear next in court on Oct. 31 via video hook-up.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Gardiner fixes to (further) slow traffic for years

$100M worth of fixes. Eight projects underway on 18-kilometre highway

The future of the crumbling Gardiner Expressway may remain unclear but one thing is certain: Short-term repairs to downtown Toronto's main commuter artery can't wait.

There are currently eight projects underway along the 18-kilometre highway: more than $100 million worth of fixes from repairing off-ramps and medians to replacing 800 metres of elevated roadway.

These are not scheduled for completion until late 2015. In the meantime, city engineers are working with traffic experts to ease the pain for drivers by staggering lane closures, limiting construction on surrounding roads and modifying traffic signals on streets in the vicinity of the Gardiner in the event of a backup.

"Obviously, where the city is at right now, traffic and congestion are huge issues, and we have to be very cognizant about how we minimize congestion," said Stephen Buckley, general manager of transportation services.

But no matter the outcome of an environmental assessment now underway, drivers are seeing just the beginning of years of orange pylons, lane closures and added congestion. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Come December ...

Workers will begin replacing the median separating the eastbound lanes from the westbound lanes from Dufferin to Ellis.

- Until that wraps up next May, one westbound lane will be closed during the morning rush hour, and lane sizes will be reduced during the afternoon rush hour.
- Traffic may be reduced to two lanes in each direction overnight.

A worker walks along a closed lane of the expressway. As repairs on the Gardiner ramp up, drivers will be in for a world of pain. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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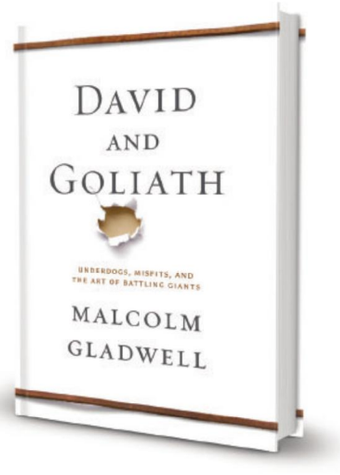

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Senators, from left, Mike Duffy, Pamela Wallin and Patrick Brazeau arrive on Parliament Hill, Tuesday.
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Duffy: PM valued 'base' over 'truth'

'Monstrous conspiracy.' Senator claims he was told by Stephen Harper's office to pay back $90,000 'or else'

Mike Duffy says Stephen Harper's office orchestrated a "monstrous conspiracy" aimed at snuffing out controversy over his Senate expenses because the prime minister was more interested in appeasing his Conservative base than he was in the truth.

Duffy delivered a riveting and often biting speech to his Senate colleagues Tuesday, spinning a tale of "conspiracy" and allegations of "bribery, threats and extortion of a sitting legislator."

He, along with former Tory colleagues Pamela Wallin and Patrick Brazeau, was on hand to defend himself against a motion to suspend him from the Senate without pay for "gross negligence" in the management of their expenses.

Duffy described a February caucus meeting with Harper and his then chief of staff, Nigel Wright, during which the senator pleaded his innocence.

"But the prime minister wasn't interested in explanations or the truth," Duffy said, recounting what Harper himself told him.

"'It's not about what you did,"' Duffy quoted Harper as saying. "'It's about the perception of what you did that's been created in the media. The rules are inexplicable to our base' … I was ordered by the prime minister to pay the money back, end of discussion."

Duffy said when he later complained that he couldn't afford to pay the money back, Wright offered to "write the cheque." He does not, however, make clear whether Harper was privy to that part of the discussion.

Duffy said he spoke by telephone several times with Wright, repeatedly insisting that to "pay back money I didn't owe would destroy my reputation."

"The PMO piled on the pressure," he continued. "Finally, the message from the PMO became, 'Do what we want — or else."'

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sex offender who fled to U.S. may have assaulted teen

Authorities say they believe a sex offender who fled Canada to the U.S. may be the suspect in the sexual assault of a 16-year-old boy.

In a news release Tuesday, Seattle police said they were told that Michael Stanley met the teen at a grocery store and walked with him to an alley.

"Stanley plied the teen with alcohol, grabbed the teen and sexually assaulted him," police alleged.

"The 16-year-old pulled a knife on Stanley and was able to run to another location and contact police." Soon after, police received reports of a man yelling in an alley.

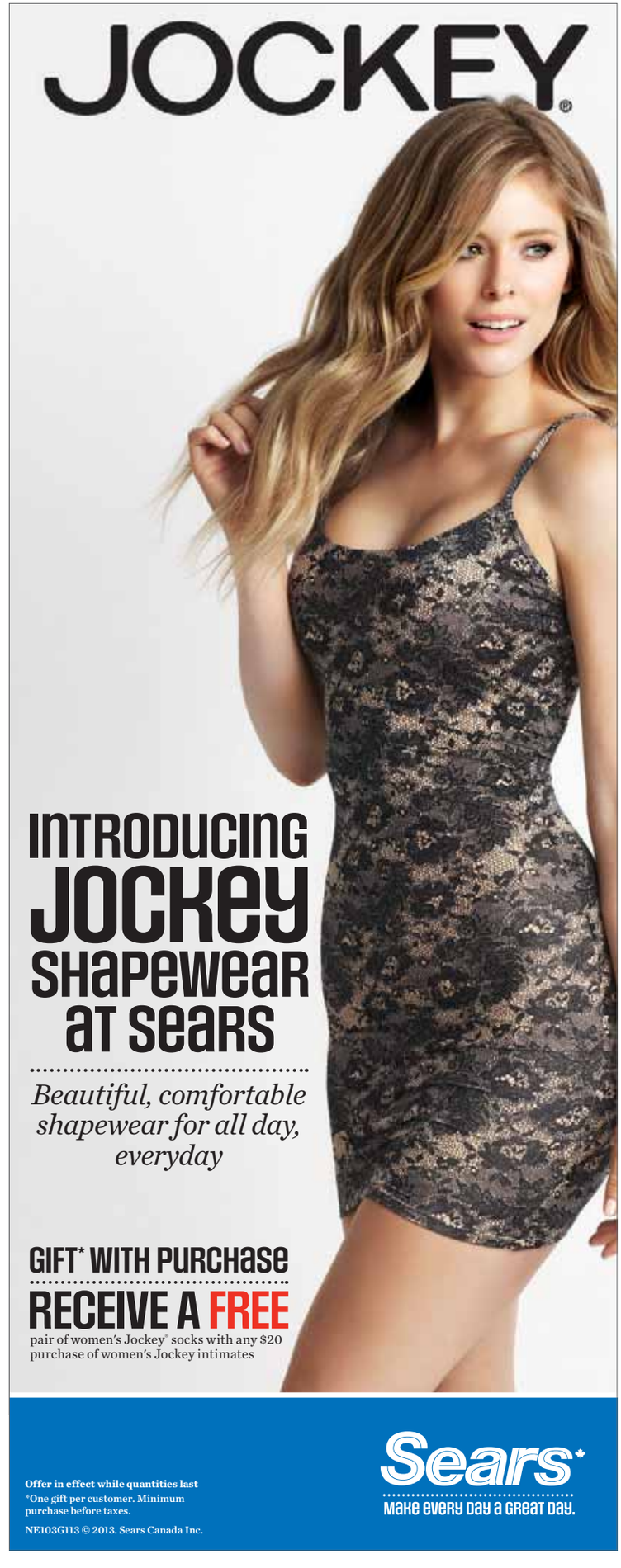
"When police arrived at the scene, they found Stanley, who became combative with officers and claimed he had a knife."

Police said officers found a small knife on Stanley, who appeared to be drunk. They arrested him for harassment and later learned about the alleged sex assault. They expected to re-book Stanley on additional charges.

Stanley entered the U.S. earlier this month as Canadian police were searching for him.

Seattle police located Stanley in the city last week and, as a registered sex offender in Canada, he was told he also had to register in the U.S. He listed his address as one near a preschool and just a block away from a scenic tourist destination.

THE CANADIAN PRESS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Facebook to warn users of violent content

Controversy. Violent news content poses particularly thorny questions for a website that allows children as young as 13 to join

Facebook announced Tuesday it was working on new ways to keep users from stumbling across gruesome content on its website following an outcry over the discovery of beheading videos there.

The controversy — which has drawn critical comment from British Prime Minister David Cameron — illustrates the difficulty of setting a universal standard across the social network used by one billion people.

Facing sharp criticism, Facebook Inc. issued a statement clarifying that violent videos were only allowed if they were presented as news or held up as atrocities to be condemned.

"If they were being celebrated, or the actions in them encouraged, our approach would be different," the company said in a statement.

"However, since some people object to graphic video of this nature, we are working to give people additional control over the content they see. This may include warning them in advance that the image they are about to see contains graphic content."

Facebook banned beheading videos in May but recently lifted the prohibition — a development flagged by the BBC on Monday.

A few groups have since condemned the social network for potentially exposing users to the violent content.

Cameron said Tuesday allowing the beheading videos back on Facebook was "irresponsible."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Censorship

"Films about beheadings may be deeply upsetting and offensive, but they do expose the reality of violent acts that are taking place in the world today."

Sean Gallagher of the London-based free speech group Index on Censorship

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Dublin

Irish police take blond girl from Roma family

Police have seized a young blond girl from a Roma family in Dublin, Ireland in a move spurred by a similar case in Greece.

The government Health Services Executive says Tuesday that it's seeking court approval Tuesday to take the girl into foster care while police investigate her origin.

Police say neighbours of the family reported the case to police. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shariah law

Brunei sultan announces new Islamic laws

Brunei's sultan announced Tuesday that a new Islamic criminal law that could include penalties like amputation for theft and stoning for adultery will be enforced in six months.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah said the Shariah Penal Code, which would be applied to Muslims only, should be regarded as a form of "special guidance" from God.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A whale of a tale

An Indonesian youth clings onto the dorsal fin of a beached whale shark as fishermen prepare to pull it back to sea at Kenjeran beach in Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia, on Tuesday. The whale survived and was successfully released back into the sea.

TRISNADI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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See dealer for details. ▼/♦/***Freight & PDI ($1,600/$1,600/$1,600/$1,650), registration, air and tire levies and OMVIC fees included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2014 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited; dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. 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SpongeBob

Gravestone creates a smelly smell

Officials at an Ohio cemetery that removed a slain Iraq war veteran's seven-foot SpongeBob SquarePants headstone after they deemed it inappropriate were planning to meet with the family to explore solutions. Her family says they got prior approval of the design — a smiling SpongeBob in an Army uniform, with Kimberly Walker's name and rank. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wedding-day gaffe

Bridegroom jailed over bomb hoax

British bridegroom Neil McArdle, 36, who made a hoax bomb threat on his wedding day rather than admit he'd neglected to book the venue for his wedding was sentenced Tuesday to a year in jail.

His fiancée was left standing in the street in her wedding gown.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Vatican aims to forge ties with other faiths through cricket.
GREGORIO BORGIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Howzat! Vatican to field cricket team in bid for dialogue with other faiths

The Vatican served tea and cucumber sandwiches Tuesday as it launched its first cricket club, an initiative aimed at forging ties with teams of other faiths.

No, Pope Francis isn't taking up the sport. The cricket club is the latest initiative of the Vatican's culture ministry to use sports to engage in dialogue with the contemporary world.

Australia's ambassador to the Holy See, John McCarthy, was the brainchild behind the initiative and said he hopes the St. Peter's Cricket Club will field a team to play the Church of England at Lord's sometime next fall.

He said the aim is to boost interfaith dialogue, given cricket's immense popularity in largely non-Catholic India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. It would be a "very special occasion" if seminarians from Rome's pontifical universities might one day play students at Muslim or Hindu religious schools on the subcontinent, he said.

The Vatican already has its Clericus Cup soccer tournament, which pitches the Swiss Guards against seminarians from the North American College and other teams. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Civil liberties group in B.C. sues government

Domestic spying. The lawsuit calls on the government to state who is watching, what is being collected and how it is handling Canadians' private communications

Josh Paterson, executive director of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, addresses a news conference on illegal spying in Vancouver on Tuesday.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The B.C. Civil Liberties Association (BCCLA) filed a lawsuit on Tuesday against the Canadian government, alleging that the federal agency responsible for electronic spying is illegally intercepting Canadians' phone calls, emails and text messages.

Caily DiPuma, staff council for the BCCLA, explained that Communications Security Establishment Canada (CSEC) has been obtaining communications between Canadians and non-Canadians who are outside the country since 2001.

Under federal law, CSEC can obtain secret authorizations from the Minister of National Defence to intercept these messages, as long as their primary target is a non-citizen.

"There is no court or parliamentary committee that monitors their interception of these private communications, and there is no judicial oversight of these sweeping powers," DiPuma said.

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Apple ups ante to get your spending dollar

The tech giant is refreshing its iPad lineup and slashing the price of its Mac computers ahead of the holiday shopping season

THE CANADIAN PRESS WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

iPad Air sheds 0.4 pounds

A thinner, lighter iPad Air will go on sale Nov. 1 and start at $499.

It weighs just one pound, compared with 1.4 pounds for the previous version. Apple marketing chief Phil Schiller called the tablet a "screaming fast iPad." He said it is eight times faster than the iPad that came out in 2010.

MacBook prices drop, but will still cost a pretty penny

A new, 13-inch MacBook Pro with Retina display is thinner and lighter, Apple marketing chief Phil Schiller said, with up to nine hours of battery life — enough to watch the entire trilogy of The Dark Knight on one charge.

The notebook's new price is lower: $1,299, compared with $1,499.

Mavericks OS focuses on apps

Apple's latest computer operating system, Mavericks, is available free of charge. New features will allow users to respond to notifications from other apps without leaving the app they are using, and will come with new maps and iBooks apps.

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Metro Toronto remains No. 1 free daily paper

Big jump. The latest data shows the number of daily readers rose 23% over the previous year

Metro's position as Toronto's No. 1 Free Daily Newspaper stands, according to results released yesterday by the Newspaper Audience Databank (NADbank).

Metro Toronto now reaches 622,000 daily readers, an increase of 23 per cent over the previous year, and 1.3 million weekly readers, an increase of 17 per cent.

Metro Toronto has strengthened its leadership position, now number one in reach with 25-54 year olds — in fact, the paper reaches more adults 18-plus in the City of Toronto than The Toronto Sun and 24 Hours combined.

"Metro has established itself as a leading brand that Torontonians turn to for news and information," says Bill McDonald, Publisher of Metro Toronto and President of Metro English Canada. "This is clearly demonstrated by the growing number of readers who are consuming our content on all its platforms. And at 23 per cent, this growth is unprecedented among other, well-established media brands.

"Our readers — active metropolitans — turn to us for an exclusive Freemium experience — premium news, information and entertainment, delivered free — from the paper, the app, and online. Our readers have spoken — and told us we're delivering on their high expectations." METRO

By the numbers

Highlights of Metro Toronto's readership results compared to 2011-12 include:

- 29 per cent of Metro Toronto's readership in the City of Toronto is composed of readers from the 18-34 demographic — this represents the highest percentage composition of readers in this demo compared to all other newspapers in the city.
- In the City of Toronto, Metro gained an additional 20,800 readers aged 18-34, now reaching 127,500 daily.
- 39 per cent of all Torontonians in the city read Metro weekly.

Market Minute

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IT'S GHOULS GONE WILD

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Let's get nasty.

As in zombies, vampires, ghosts, goblins, warlocks, witches, Kim Kardashian and Miley Cyrus.

Yes, it's that most politically incorrect time of year: Halloween.

Proof that Halloween is not good-for-you-like-tofu is easy to come by:

1.) The Miley Cyrus twerking outfit from the MTV video awards is the hottest-selling Halloween costume of the year, according to the costume chain Spirit Halloween.

2.) School principals across North America keep trying to ban Halloween because it's religiously objectionable, racist, sexist, not safe and it rots your teeth.

3.) It's big business. Halloween spending in the U.S. will reach $6.9 billion this year, according to the National Retail Federation. Scary!

Still, Halloween in all its gory manages to survive intact.

People simply like to pretend they're bad. They dress up like celebrities (Miley, Kim Kardashian), comic-book heroes (Wolverine, Iron Man), cartoons (the Minions from Despicable Me), newsmakers (Osama bin Laden) and sex symbols (Marilyn Monroe, Osama bin Laden).

What? Osama Bin Laden is a sex symbol?

Believe it or not, you can buy a sexy Osama costume online, along with a sexy Hazmat suit from Breaking Bad, a sexy pizza costume and a sexy Barney the Dinosaur costume.

There's no doubt, according to various Halloweenologists, that, zombies and wolverines aside, sexy is the No. 1 trend for Trick-or-Treat 2013. And if you think the Miley Cyrus twerking costume is in bad taste, how about "Naughty Leopard" for two-year-old girls? The costume looks innocuous enough — if you think black lace on your two-year-old is innocuous — but what's with the "Naughty Leopard" label? The costume bears no resemblance to a leopard, naughty or otherwise. It's wrong on so many levels.

Every year, a Naughty Leopard or some other new wretched Halloween excess is revealed by an eager media. That's the point: Halloween is rude, offensive and over-the-top. It's also a lot of fun.

I can hear the killjoys now. Yeah, it's fun until someone gets hurt. And every year, someone gets hurt, at least psychologically. I'll never forget the year my six-year-old son decided he'd dress up as a three-headed zombie. Once the costume and makeup were complete, he took one look in the mirror and burst into tears. He spent the rest of the evening dialed down as a "nasty pirate."

But the effort to clean up Halloween is just as scary as the offending festival itself. The vast majority of Halloween hijinks are harmless and delightful, so the trick is to take a deep breath — and the treat is a big bag of candy, of course. That will rot your teeth for sure.

That evil, cackling sound is not Osama bin Laden or Miley Cyrus.

It's your dentist.

ZOOM

Look-alikes demand a double take

ALISON JACKSON/REX FEATURES

Fake royal family enjoys bath time

Just before little Prince George's christening, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge appear to enjoy bonding time with their new arrival.

In this intimate photo, William and Kate are bathing their baby — but on closer inspection, they're all look-alikes. This amusing image was taken by photographer Alison Jackson. **METRO**

From behind the lens

"I want my photos to burst a bubble constructed within the media that celebrities don't lead normal private lives. I want to show that they actually do." Alison Jackson, photographer

Don't believe everything you see

While many see their comical value, Jackson's view of her images has more serious overtones. "Jackson raises questions about whether we can believe what we see when we live in a mediated world of screens, imagery and Internet," her bio reads. "She comments on the power and seductive nature of imagery and on our need to believe." **METRO**

Number of duplicates

5

is the number of look-alikes Jackson has at her service for Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge.

"I have one in particular who is a dead ringer — she's identical in photographs taken from all angles," Jackson said.

The next impersonator Jackson is hunting for is of actor-pop star Miley Cyrus. "If you do know someone, I would be very grateful if you could contact me!" she appealed to Metro.

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Carcasses belonging to a huge deep-sea dweller — "oarfish" to modern know-it-alls, "sea serpents" to yesteryear sailors — have been drawing the curious since appearing in California last week. That's a sadly prohibitive distance for Canadian bizarre-creature enthusiasts. Happily, these blogs are more accessible.

An oarfish that washed up on the beach in California. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Real Monstrosities:

It's immediately clear the curators of this blog are more into weird critters than they are web design, but that's quickly forgiven amid videos of creepy crawlies such as wrap-around spiders and the badger bat, which is actually pretty cute. (realmonstrosities.com)

The Artful Amoeba:

A corner of Scientific American dedicated to the tiny (plankton), the mind-bending (deep-sea oddities) and the unfairly overlooked (um, horse dung fungus). The updates can be few, but there's a lot of surprising life there to catch up on. (scientificamerican.com)

Living Alongside Wildlife:

Dedicated to the sometimes dangerous animals that share the spaces we live in and busting the myths that surround them. However, the real stars of the show here are the rich answers to "what the heck is this thing in my house?" emails from readers. (livingalongsidewildlife.com)

Letters

This is a very BIG THANK YOU to both the Good Samaritan and the TTC workers who returned my Canada Goose jacket to the TTC Lost and Found on Monday, Oct. 21.

I was on the southbound line, and with delays, got hot and jammed my black jacket into my black bag with my heavy black rollerblades. I got off at Bloor, and somehow, the jacket never made it off the subway. This was a very special (and very expensive!) gift from my husband. Losing it filled me with dread.

I didn't hold any hope that I would see it again, but had to try. Thanks to the quick return by a very kind anonymous person, within three hours, TTC staff managed to go the extra mile to get the jacket to Lost and Found.

Anita Koch, Toronto

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Send us your comments: torontoletters@metronews.ca

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Cormac who? Hollywood brings a literary heavyweight to the masses

McCarthy movies.
Author's memorably dark characters come to life with this year's releases of Child of God and The Counselor

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Cormac McCarthy wrote the screenplay for The Counselor, which stars Brad Pitt and Michael Fassbender. CONTRIBUTED

Javier Bardem played a murderer in No Country for Old Men. CONTRIBUTED

Cormac McCarthy may not be a household name around your place, unless you live with the Coen Brothers or maybe with the Pitts.

Literary critic Harold Bloom called the writer one of the four major American novellists of his time, and he has two all-star movies set for release, which may make his name a little more commonplace.

Later in 2013 James Franco directs, scripts and stars in Child of God, an adaptation of McCarthy's 1973 novel about "a dispossessed, violent man whose life is a disastrous attempt to exist outside the social order."

This weekend a star-studded cast lead by Brad Pitt, Cameron Diaz and Michael Fassbender headline The Counselor, directed by Ridley Scott.

Producer Steve Schwartz says the story of a lawyer in over his head after dipping his toe into the drug trade "may be one of McCarthy's most disturbing and powerful works."

And that's saying something about the writer who gave us a character like No Country for Old Men's killing machine Anton Chigurh. Empireonline.com warned that when McCarthy throws "a dark character at you, it's a safe assumption that you're not going to be able to get them out of your head for a good, long while — if ever."

As written by McCarthy and played by Javier Bardem, who earned an Academy Award for best supporting actor for the part, Chigurh is merciless, a murderer who makes life and death decisions with the flip of a coin.

Stuck in your head

"(When McCarthy throws) a dark character at you, it's a safe assumption that you're not going to be able to get them out of your head for a good, long while — if ever." Empireonline.com

The Road, a 2007 Pulitzer Prize winner for fiction, is another disturbing McCarthy novel adapted for the big screen.

The story is simple. A man and his son (Viggo Mortenson and Kodi Smit-McPhee) try to survive in a dystopian world. Armed with only a gun and two bullets, they must scavenge for food amid the ruins and protect themselves from cannibals who roam the desolate land.

The Road is a movie based on small moments set against a big backdrop. No parent will be able to forget the stark image of seeing a young boy who doesn't know what a can of Coke is or a father teaching his son how to commit suicide.

It's tough, no-nonsense work from a writer who says he's "not that big a fan of exotic foreign films," especially movies with magical realism. "You know, it's hard enough to get people to believe what you're telling them without making it impossible," he says. "It has to be vaguely plausible."

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Fey and Poehler strike comic gold

Tina Fey and Amy Poehler sure know how to negotiate. The former Saturday Night Live stars will be reprising their roles as Golden Globes hosts for the next two years, and they'll each reportedly be paid as much as $4 million for each ceremony, according to Radar Online. "Tina and Amy decided to ask for the craziest package ever given to awards

Tina Fey

hosts," a source says. "They are each being paid more than any Oscar host in history with the exception of Billy Crystal. They basically saw how desperate NBC was for their help and decided to take them for a ride."

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The Word

Kimye is officially official

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

OH MA GAH. Kim and Kanye are officially engaged!

The engagement was done in their typical low-key style, which meant, for Kanye, renting out AT&T Park in San Francisco for their friends and family and pleading "PLEEEASE MARRY MEEEEE!!!!" on the Jumbotron while a 50-piece orchestra played Lana Del Rey's Young and Beautiful, followed by Keri Hilson, Ne-Yo and Kanye's Knock You Down.

Fireworks and Roman candles were also deployed. And then Stephen Hawking wheeled in to present the ring (just kidding on that last part but honestly, would you even be surprised?).

Just in case you were curious, she agreed to the engagement (her third, for those keeping track at home). Kardashian Instagrammed a picture of her 15-carat Lorraine Schwartz stunner with the caption, "Yes."

You know, let's be happy for them. Maybe they will have a long marriage until one of them finally passes away from too much flash exposure.

They'll pop out some more geographically named children. Kanye will continue on with his leather sweatpant ways while Kim will continue to dress like something out of a couture Century 21. They could be our Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward!

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Catherine Zeta-Jones and Michael Douglas ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

It's not over till it's over, or something like that

Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones may still be separated, but Douglas is optimistic about how things will turn out between them. "I've been away for a while, but everything should hopefully be on the up and up," he tells Jay Leno during an interview. "Sometimes people take a little bit of a break, but it doesn't necessarily mean that's the end. I'm very hopeful."

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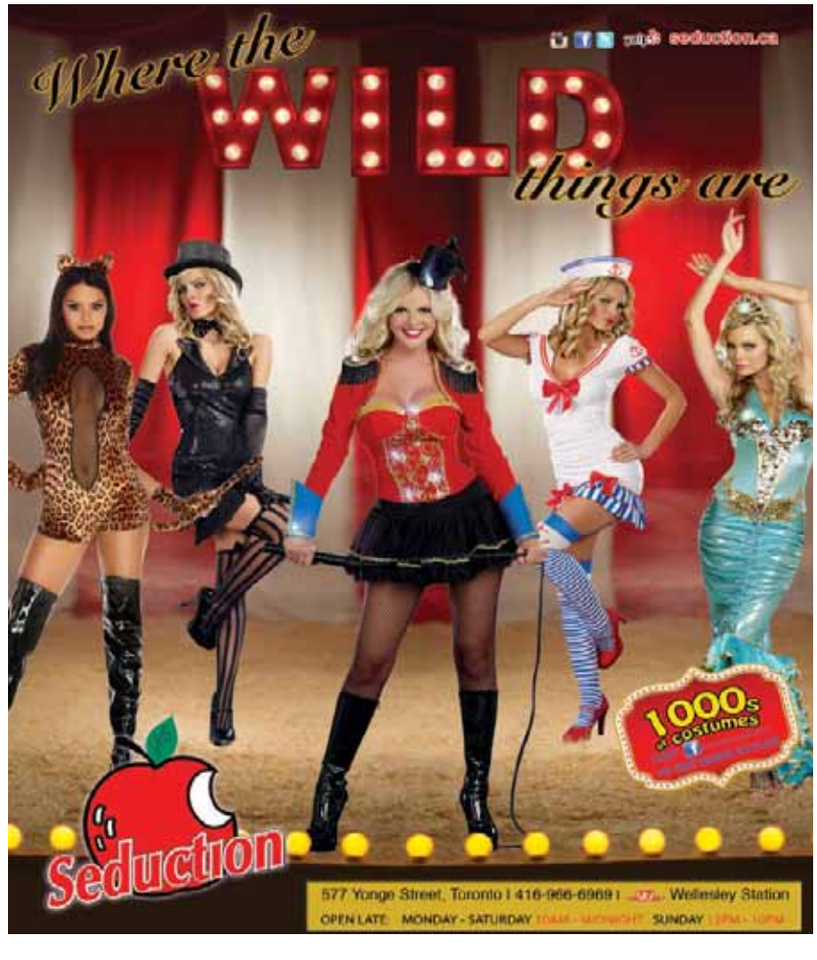
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Rewards programs

Cutting through the card confusion

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

With more than 75 travel reward cards — each with nuanced offerings — saturating the Canadian marketplace, it is hardly surprising that consumers feel confused and frustrated.

Take for example, the CIBC Aerogold credit card. Over the last several months, there have been numerous advertisements and direct mail pieces announcing the changes coming with the credit card and the Aeroplan program in general. As of Jan. 1, 2014 the current CIBC Aerogold will cease to exist. Both CIBC and TD banks will be offering new co-branded credit cards, the Aeroplan program will offer a new tiered recognition program called Distinction that rewards top accumulating members across all coalition partners (not just travel related ones) and new and improved flight rewards will be implemented. The changes do not correlate with Air Canada's Altitude program, which rewards frequent fliers with upgrades, lounge passes and express lines at the airport. These are all potentially good changes, but a lot to digest. RewardsCanada.ca produces a fantastic annual report that rates reward cards based on several criteria, including ease of redemption, partnerships, benefits and annual fees. They also look at the reach of the various travel partners, such as the number of cities a partner airline may fly into or the number of locations a hotel partner may have around the world. Their winner for this year's top travel credit card with an annual fee was the Capital One Aspire Travel World MasterCard.

5 Free things to see in San Diego

The home of SeaWorld and a world-famous zoo offers plenty of cash-burning attractions, but San Diego also has awe-inspiring sites that are as free as the sea breeze and go beyond just sunbathing at the beach. You'll soon see this city has matured from its Fast Times at Ridgemont High surf days.

STORY AND PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Balboa Park

Balboa Park will be marking its 100th anniversary in 2015, although any day is worth a visit to the 485-hectare urban oasis that rivals New York's Central Park and is home to the San Diego Zoo. Balboa Park offers hikes through palm-lined canyons and gardens. At the park's centre are a cluster of museums whose Spanish-Renaissance style buildings were erected in 1915 for a world fair to mark the opening of the Panama Canal.

University of California San Diego

On a mesa above the Pacific, the setting alone is reason to visit the UC San Diego campus. The university's grounds are also dotted by 18 internationally acclaimed art pieces. The most recent installation is Fallen Star by Korean artist Do Ho Suh. The quaint one-room cottage hangs precariously off the seventh storey of the engineering school.

The Salk Institute

Just west of the UC San Diego campus is The Salk Institute for Biological Studies, which offers free guided tours Monday to Friday. Established in the 1960s by Dr. Jonas Salk, who developed the polio vaccine, the research facility was designed by architect Louis I. Kahn. Salk wanted laboratory spaces that could be adapted to the future needs of science. Kahn designed two, six-storey buildings and used concrete, teak, lead, glass and special steel.

Border Field State Park

San Diego is a border city but it often does not feel like one despite the fact its centre is less than a 20-minute drive to Mexico. The best way to see the border without crossing it is at Border Field State Park, which is at the farthest southwest corner of the United States. The park is free for those who hike in from the parking lot before the main gate. It's about 2.4 kilometres to the picnic area, where visitors can see the towering steel fence marking the border, which plunges into the Pacific.

Torrey Pines Glider Port

For spectacular sky gazing, head to Torrey Pines Glider Port, a city-owned, private-use glider airport where paragliders and hang gliders jump off the wind-swept bluffs and silently float over the ocean. During the Second World War, U.S. Army cadets trained at the site, which is listed as a National Landmark of Soaring. Today there are picnic tables. The glider port offers lessons and equipment rental, and sandwiches at the Cliff Hanger Cafe.

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T 'n' T: They're dynamite

Located on the southern edge of the Caribbean, Trinidad and Tobago (gotrinidadandtobago.com) is the perfect vacation spot for visitors torn between wanting to lime — island slang for "hang out" — on a deserted beach or enjoy a multicultural city. It is one country, two experiences; separated not only by time, but also a 20-minute island-hopping flight, or a two-and-a-half hour ferry ride.

DEAN LISK
travel@metronews.ca

Tobago

Often described as an original Caribbean experience, Tobago has so far escaped the onslaught of single-file all-inclusive resorts running along entire coastlines and tourist-oriented restaurants and shops. What it does have? An authentic vibe lacking on other more populated islands in the region. That's not to say it lacks sophistication. Tobago — its name is believed to come from the island word for tobacco, tavaco — is home to an impressive jazz festival that in past years has played host to Whitney Houston, Erykah Badu, Elton John and Stevie Wonder.

Lay your head

With names like Salaka Grill, Tavaco Lounge and The Robinson Crusoe bar — it is believed Tobago served as inspiration for the Daniel Defoe story — the Hotel Magdalena Grand Beach Resort (magdalenagrand.com) references Tobago history at every turn. Nestled on the eastern shore of the island, and south of the capital, Scarborough, the Magdalena offers wind-kissed views of the Atlantic Ocean. The accordion-shaped complex, designed so every room faces the water, boasts adult-only infinity pools at both its northern and southern wings, while a larger pool complex — complete with swim-up bar — leads down to the ocean from the main building. Its southern beach is one of the few stretches of sand on Tobago where, at certain times of the year, leatherback, green and hawksbill turtles will lay their eggs. If it happens at night, hotel staff will alert patrons who may be in Tavaco or the Crusoe enjoying a Carib or Stag beer.

The winding road

If you can tear yourself away from turtle egg hatching, go across Tobago to Pigeon Point Heritage Park. Rather than bird watching, head out in one of the glass bottom boats to Buccoo Reef to watch the sea life, or go snorkelling for a closer view. Afterward, grab a drink at Renmar's beachside restaurant, where a buffet-styled meal of goat, beef, fish and rice and peas is served. You can wash it down with a bottle of Moet for 800 TT to 1,000 TT (the exchange rate is around 6.5 TT to one Canadian dollar, which means the champagne will cost around $128 to $160).

While a shuttle takes hotel guests from the Magdalena to Pigeon Point, you may want to opt for a tour of the island so you can bask at a less popular beach. Englishman's Bay and Bloody Bay are more secluded and accessible after following the winding roads that hug cliffs and straddle lush mountain ridges. If your stomach can handle the hair-pin turns, stop at Jemma's Seaview Kitchen and Treehouse Restaurant in Speyside for a dinner of chicken, shrimp, lobster or fish served family-style with vegetable rice, breadfruit pie and fritters.

To learn more about the island — it changed hands 33 times between the French, English, Spanish and Dutch since it was first sighted by Columbus in 1498 — visit the museum in Fort James, high up in the hills on the edge of Scarborough.

More Tobago

- Early next year, Tobago will be holding a contest to find a person to live on the island for two months and blog, tweet and Facebook about their experiences. More details of the contest will be revealed soon so pick up Metro for details.
- Off-Road Jeep Safari will take you on abandoned plantation roads and mud tracks, passing by ruined sugar plantations, deserted waterfalls and ocean views. (tobagonow.com/tour01.htm).

Place a bet

An island invention, goat racing has become an annual favourite among locals and visitors. Started in the 1980s, the races take place during Easter with purses of a few thousand Trinidadian dollars up for grabs. So how does a goat go from grazer to gazelle? With the help of a human and a nine-foot rope. Anthony Horsford is president of Tobago's goat owners association and also a former goat jockey. "Most people say I was the best around, but I wouldn't," he said. Horsford said a goat can go as fast as the runner who is following behind the goat and prodding it along — which means 100 metres in 11 or 12 seconds. Goats are trained for years and are fed special diets. Some owners pick animals with a certain shape, others go for specific breeds. Some look for natural ability. Horsford picks his according to the way they walk. He swims them — they have names like Lucky Star, Fast Money and Silver Baby — 20 minutes a day, takes them for long walks and feeds them a mix of oats, corn, dairy and a special "tonic" — a closely guarded secret.

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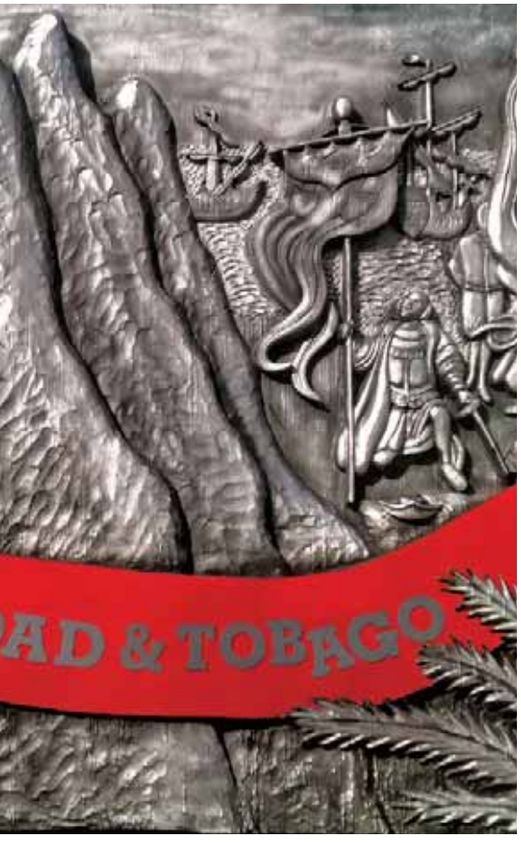

Trinidad

More developed than its northeastern island neighbour, Trinidad mimics the colourful costumes of its annual carnival — with a vibrancy that feels South American, Caribbean and Indian all at once. With a respect for the past, and an optimism for the future, the island has really come into its own as a sophisticated city with world-class restaurants and must-see cultural events.

Hanuman and temples

It may come as a surprise at first, but Trinidad is home to the largest statue of the Hindu deity Hanuman — the monkey god — outside of Asia. The statue is located in Carapichaima, south of the capital, and is part of the larger Sri Dattatreya Yoga Centre — classes are offered to the public. The Indian population in Trinidad dates back to the 1830s, when indentured labourers were brought over to work the sugar plantations after slavery ended on the island. Their stories are told at The Indian Caribbean Museum, located near the ashram. A few kilometres away on the coast is The Temple in the Sea, which was built by labourer Sewdass Sadhu, as a place where he and other Hindus could worship during colonial times. No one owned the sea, believed Sadhu, whose creation rose from the Gulf of Paria in the 1930s. End your visit to the temples with a meal at Alpine Restaurant in Couva. Goat, chicken or beef curry is served with roti bread, rice and a side dish called kuchla — made from mango, black pepper and Indian seasoning.

Caribbean beats

The next carnival doesn't take place until early March, but preparations are well underway for Port of Spain's daylong festival. Lasting from early morning to, well, early morning, the best way to experience it is as part of a team that marches and dances through the streets together. David Cameron, a bandleader for the Trini Reveller team recently revealed the Sultan's Palace-themed costumes his troupe of 2,500 people will wear. They range in cost from 2,400 TT for a simple male outfit, to 150,000 TT for an elaborate Queen costume. Don't worry, the cost of the costume includes food and drinks for the day.

Not sure you can survive more than 20 hours of dancing and drinking? Then visit one of Port of Spain's many pan band yards. The national instrument of Trinidad, the steel pan can be used to stand in for different instruments, explains Kwesi Paul, arranger for Pandemonium, a steel orchestra in Port of Spain.

He says some pans act as lead singers, others as guitars and basses, and even backup vocals to the main sound. Paul has adapted songs by Rihanna, Adele and others, including the Bruno Mars song When I Was Your Man and the jazz classic Summertime.

Sail, swim, sing

The northwestern coast of Trinidad is considered to be Port of Spain's backyard, with beaches, trails, fishing, and — most importantly — shark and bake, a local street food made from small shark covered in batter and deep fried. A popular place to try this local delicacy is Richard's, located steps from the light brown sandy beach of Macqueripe Bay. The area is also home to Trinidad's first permanent zip line, Zip-ITT Adventure Tours, designed to take you through the canopy with seven lines located high above the forest floor. The cost is a very reasonable 120 TT (around $20) per person. For those who prefer to stay on land — or on a boat — a tour of the islands off the peninsula will introduce you to some of the country's history — like an old leper colony — the summer homes of some of the country's elite, secluded bays perfect for swimming and maybe even a few passing dolphins.

More Trinidad

- In such a multicultural and diverse country, there are a number of tours you can take. Among those offered by Gail's Exclusive Tour Services are aphrodisiac adventures, where you taste some of the spices and island locales guaranteed to leave you swooning, and a Trini for a Day package where you spend the day with a local family.
- Both WestJet and Caribbean Airlines fly non-stop from Toronto to Port of Spain.

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Drink of the Week

Skinny Banana Berry Smoothie

- 1 cup (250 ml) strawberries
- 1 cup (250 ml) blueberries
- 1 banana
- 1 cup (250 ml) fat-free plain yogurt
- 1 cup (250 ml) orange juice
- 1 cup (250 ml) ice
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) + 1/2 tsp (2 1/2 ml) Truvia sweetener spoonable

Add all ingredients to blender. Blend on high until smooth. NEWS CANADA

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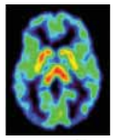

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B.E.A.T it, just B.E.A.T it

Bacon, eggs, avocado and tomato combine so you can serve a healthy meal everyone will enjoy and beat the time crunch on any busy day.

Your kids may like plain eggs, but it's easy to add an adult twist by stuffing your pita with bold, flavourful ingredients.

1. Warm bacon in non-stick skillet over medium heat.

2. In a small bowl, whisk eggs and pepper; pour into skillet. As mixture begins to set, gently move spatula across bottom and sides of skillet to form large, soft curds. Cook until eggs are thickened and no visible liquid egg remains.

3. Cut pitas in half; open halves and place tomato slices inside. Spoon in scrambled eggs and avocado.

Variations

Cheese B.E.A.T.
Instead of bacon, use 60 g (2 oz) sliced brie or shredded cheddar or mozzarella.

Veggie B.E.A.T
Instead of avocado and tomato, add texture by using one small chopped sweet red or green pepper and one grated carrot.

B.E.A.T. in a Tortilla
Instead of pita bread, use whole-wheat tortillas. Roll up scrambled eggs, tomatoes and avocado inside tortilla.

B.E.A.T. in a Pocket

This recipe makes four servings. CONTRIBUTED

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ EGG FARMERS OF CANADA

Ingredients

Preparation time: 8 minutes
Cooking time: 5 minutes

- 2 slices reduced-salt bacon, cooked and chopped
- 4 eggs
- 0.5 ml (1/8 tsp) pepper
- 2 whole-wheat pita pockets
- 1 tomato, sliced
- 1/2 avocado, diced

IMPROVE YOUR ODDS ABROAD

ISTOCK/THINKSTOCK

If you are an entrepreneur with growth on your mind, the place to look for fresh markets is no longer just the U.S., the European Union or Japan. It's increasingly important to consider China, India, Brazil and emerging countries in Southeast Asia, says Frank Pho, vice-president, global expansion, at the Business Development Bank of Canada.

China's economy grew by more than 10 per cent annually from 2000 to 2010, while India's expanded by seven per cent annually, and Brazil's has grown by nearly four per cent per year. Meanwhile, the economies of Canada, the U.S. and the European Union each grew by less than two per cent annually.

"The emerging markets are where you have constant GDP growth," Pho says. "Going to those countries should no longer be a question of why, but rather a question of how."

Expanding into these markets offers not just growth potential, but also much needed diversification, he says.

"Canada is a very small percentage of the global market. Companies that focus only domestically limit their growth potential."

But Canadian companies are falling behind in the globalization race, Pho says. Just eight per cent of Canadian exports explore the fastest-growing emerging markets, while 85 per cent still focus on the mature developed world. Many companies don't even consider pursuing international sales, and Pho says that can be dangerous.

"If you don't expand abroad, you're playing a defensive game because you will still be competing against foreign companies doing business in Canada."

Canadian entrepreneurs need "a paradigm shift" to catch up, Pho says. Many start selling abroad without an understanding of the target market's behaviour, their different supply chain and/or business practices, which results in costly false starts.

Entrepreneurs must adopt the consumer mindset of the target country and adapt their products and solutions. Too often, Canadian companies fail because they assume a product that sells in Canada will sell elsewhere.

It's important to get help from advisers who understand the local consumer mindset, target market and players in the supply chain, Pho says. This process can take two to three months, but it will save you a couple of trips.

COLOURBOX

GET SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL GROWTH

The biggest successes for small business often start with humble beginnings. But dreams of international growth need to be built upon a foundation of knowledge, experience, and infrastructure — and the best way to build that foundation is by asking for support.

"Taking that next step and expanding your business across borders can be an exciting, but stressful time," says Lisa Lisson, president, FedEx Express Canada. "Whether it's dealing with international shipping and customs or understanding international tax implications, turning to, and learning from, expert advice can often be the difference between success and failure."

There are a variety of government and private sector resources available to Canadian small businesses looking to expand to new markets, including:

Export Development Canada (edc.ca) offers financial services, and a range of exporting resources for small business exporters.

Canadian Trade Commissioner Service (tradecommissioner.gc.ca) is part of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada. Trade commissioners lend their expertise and provide access to a network of international business contacts to help Canadian small businesses export, establish company operations abroad, and tackle market access issues.

FedEx Get Ahead (fedex.ca/getahead) offers a wealth of articles providing expert advice on a number of topics, including managing small business finances, building customer loyalty and differentiating your small business.

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Lessons from the lemonade stand

Got selling in the soul? Buy up some career advice from a recent graduate-turned-sales manager

MEGHAN GREAVES
TalentEgg.ca

A sales career comes with excitement, growth and opportunity. But it also takes a lot of passion and hard work to be successful. Just ask Jamie Kuepfer, a recent grad who is currently navigating a career in sales.

Kuepfer recently graduated from Conestoga College, where he received a three-year advanced business administration-marketing co-op degree. Kuepfer was able to use his work experience, co-op work-term and innate passion for the industry to launch his career in sales.

Where did you find your passion for the sales industry?

When I was seven years old, I grew pumpkins in my mom's garden and sold them at the end of our driveway. For some reason, the idea of selling products always appealed to me.

Later on, I got my first job at a Farmers' Market, and I learned how to interact with customers and how to convince people to buy your product in an environment where they had lots of other options.

This is where I realized that I liked the challenges of selling and also realized that it was something I was good at.

You completed an eight-month co-op term during your studies. How was that useful?

I think co-op provided me with a lot of experience that I wouldn't have got in a classroom. I worked for an industrial supplies company and learned a lot about how interacting with customers in that environment can be very different from what I was accustomed to in retail.

To prepare for co-op, I made sure my resumé was the best it could be. I had friends and professors look over it and went to a resumé workshop where a professional gave me a few pointers.

I also practised for some interview questions — I tried to not seem too rehearsed because employers aren't looking for that in a salesperson. To prepare for co-op, I also went to several job fairs to make sure I had explored as many options as possible.

What does your day as a sales manager usually look like?

Typically when I get there in the morning, I touch base with my team to find out what's going on, we work out any issues and figure out what we need to do that day to look after our customers and keep them happy. I also spend a lot of time talking to customers to make sure they are being looked after. As a manager, I try to take on some of the projects that are a little more involved so I can be sure that everything goes off without a hitch.

Things will go wrong and a big part of my job is ensuring that when they do, we get the problem solved as quickly and efficiently as possible. I'm convinced that you gain more customer loyalty by properly dealing with the problem.

How have you been able to progress so quickly in your career? Where do you think a career in sales will lead you?

For me, a lot of it has been being in the right place at the right time. That being said, I wouldn't be in the position I am if I hadn't networked and put myself out there.

I also think that showing that I have the attitude to succeed has also helped me a lot. I'm happy where I am right now. I think that someday I would really like to be my own boss and have my own business, but we'll see.

Keep the customer satisfied

"I'm convinced that you gain more customer loyalty by properly dealing with the problem."

Jamie Kuepfer
Sales manager

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Consider doing a co-op placement to determine whether you're sold on a sales career. ISTOCK

Eyes on the prize

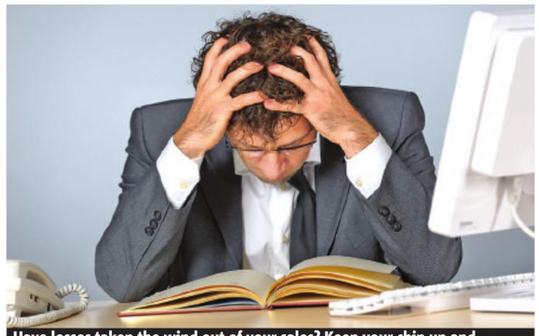
As a sales manager, what is your biggest strength you bring to the table every day?

- For me, I think it's important to not lose sight of the big picture.
- In the building materials industry, there are times of the year where it gets very busy and it feels like you're never going to get everything done, but I think encouraging my team to keep plugging on helps to keep things flowing smoothly.
- Ultimately, my job is to make sure every customer is happy with us at the end of the day. If you look after that, everything else just sort of falls into place.

Thumbs down? Do not frown!

We aren't buying what you're selling. Five ways things can go your way at your sales job, even after hearing a 'nay'

MEGHAN GREAVES
TalentEgg.ca



Have losses taken the wind out of your sales? Keep your chin up and remember that refusals are a part of any workplace. ISTOCK

When I started my summer co-op in sales, I was filled with nerves. I was excited to be working one-on-one with clients, but I was also terrified that I would disappoint my employer.

One of the most valuable things I learned from my job in sales is that a sales role can often mean experiencing satisfaction and disappointment in very close proximity. This can be very hard as a new hire without much experience, as you may feel like your failures outweigh your successes.

If you're starting a job in sales, these four tips will help you deal with hearing "no" in a constructive manner!

Treat each "no" separately

When I started my co-op, there were days when all I heard was "no" for the entire morning. I got discouraged easily, so every opportunity that followed a "no" was affected by my deflated attitude.

When starting your sales job, don't let one "no" have a negative impact on the rest of your day. This will lead to you having write-off days, which can hold you back from reaching your full potential.

Remember that "no" is part of the job

You'd love to come away from every opportunity having exceeded expectations, but that just isn't possible in reality.

In any career, you'll need to deal with disappointment and negative outcomes. Keep in mind that everyone goes through these experiences regardless of experience, technique or client base.

Hearing "no" is just a part of sales — use it as an opportunity to rework your strategy and reevaluate your approach with that prospective client.

Keep your confidence up

It might sound cliché, but don't get down on yourself.

A lack of confidence will be reflected in how you come across during a sale. Even if you haven't had the best day for sales, it's important to always treat every sale as if it were your first.

So buck up, choose a smile and push past the negative!

Ask your manager for tips

It's important to recognize opportunities for growth as they arise, so don't be afraid to ask for tips and technique advice from your manager.

During the first week of my co-op I asked my manager if he would be willing to spend some time helping me evaluate my sales strategy and communication skills. Before I knew it, I consistently had the highest sales in my region!

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Leafs forward Phil Kessel celebrates his third goal against the Anaheim Ducks on Tuesday night at Air Canada Centre. ABELIMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

Duck hunt: Kessel on target with hat trick

NHL. Leafs score four unanswered goals to return to win column

Phil Kessel scored three goals as the Toronto Maple Leafs recovered from a poor start to defeat Anaheim 4-2 Tuesday, denying the Ducks a club-record eighth straight win.

It was a Jekyll and Hyde performance for the Leafs, who were booed off the ice after a woeful first period that saw them outplayed, outshot 6-2 and outscored 1-0. Kessel struck twice in the second period as Toronto scored four unanswered goals to climb out of a 2-0 deficit.

Captain Dion Phaneuf also scored for the Leafs (7-3-0) before an Air Canada Centre crowd of 19,408.

James van Riemsdyk, who played provider to Kessel most of the night, had a chance to make it 5-2 in the third period but hit the goalpost with a backhand on a penalty shot after being interfered with on a breakaway.

Kessel, whose offence had been sporadic at best this season, upped his goal total to five with the hat trick. The Leafs sniper had a chance to go for a fourth late in the game but chose to pass it to linemate Tyler Bozak, who failed to convert.

Nick Bonino and Mathieu Perreault scored for Anaheim (7-2-0).

The win snapped a two-game losing streak for the Leafs and coach Randy Carlyle, who led the Ducks to the Stanley Cup in 2007 before being fired in 2011.

Tuesday's game was the first stop on a season-long eight-game road trip for the Ducks, a journey that will cover 15 days and 13,215 kilometres.

Anaheim outshot Toronto 25-23. THE CANADIAN PRESS

On Tuesday

Maple Leafs	Ducks
4	2

NHL

Knee injury costs Oilers' Hall 4 weeks

Edmonton Oilers forward Taylor Hall is expected to miss four weeks of action after suffering a left knee injury in a game last Saturday.

General manager Craig MacTavish confirmed the injury timeline Tuesday morning through a post on the team's Twitter feed.

Hall has three goals and five assists in nine games this season. He was hurt on an innocent-looking play in Edmonton's 3-1 win at Ottawa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer

Messi helps Barca to draw in Milan

Lionel Messi scored a first-half equalizer to earn Barcelona a 1-1 draw against AC Milan in Group H of the Champions League on Tuesday.

Robinho gave Milan a deserved lead after only nine minutes, but Messi levelled in the 23rd from a similar range after being left in space by Milan's rearguard, taking advantage of a mistake by Milan defender Kevin Constant. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

"I felt uncomfortable with the celebrity aspect of his life."

A decade after kicking a boot at David Beckham's head, Alex Ferguson used his autobiography to criticize the star's apparent preoccupation with fame. Ferguson's autobiography will be released on Thursday.

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Unfamiliar faces find their way to Fenway

World Series.
Cardinals, Red Sox to meet in Fall Classic for fourth time in October

Trevor Rosenthal poses for a picture taken by Cardinals teammate Matt Carpenter on Tuesday at Fenway Park in Boston. ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

Lance Lynn squeezed through a door leading into the Green Monster, shimmied along a cramped space behind the famed left-field wall and peered out a tiny metal slot in the Fenway Park scoreboard.

"A little snug for me," the burly St. Louis pitcher said.

Plenty of Cardinals got their first look at the century-old ballpark during a workout Tuesday, a day before they opened the World Series against the Red Sox.

Hardly the first time we've seen these rivals together, however. Now, they're set to meet for the fourth time in "that Octobery kind of air," as Cardinals Game 1 starter Adam Wainwright described it.

Jon Lester will oppose him Wednesday night, facing a lineup that got a late boost. Allen Craig, who hit a major league-leading .454 with runners in scoring position but hasn't played since Sept. 4 because of a sprained foot, is set to return.

David Ortiz, Dustin Pedroia and many of their scraggly Boston teammates figure to get a good look at the Cardinals' crop of young arms, led by post-season ace Michael Wacha and relievers Trevor Rosenthal, Carlos Martinez and Kevin Siegrist.

Ortiz is the link to the Red Sox team that swept St. Louis in the 2004 Series — Boston never trailed at any point — and ended an 86-year championship drought.

The clubs haven't met in the regular season since 2008.

"It will be exciting to see some unfamiliar faces," Red Sox centre-fielder Jacoby Ellsbury said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not pitching like he's green

"A ball game can change with one swing of the bat in this ballpark."

Cardinals rookie right-hander Michael Wacha on pitching under the shadows of the Green Monster. Wacha is a stellar 3-0 with a 0.43 post-season ERA

World of difference

Farrell's new face perplexing

CATHAL KELLY
Special to Metro

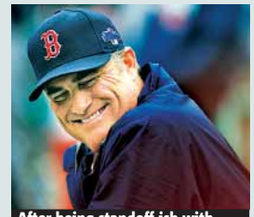
In his two years as Toronto Blue Jays manager, John Farrell was an enemy of fun.

This is what makes Farrell in Boston so confusing and, given where it's ended up, so frustrating.

You see him standing up there at the top of the Red Sox dugout pre-game, surrounded by his greasy troops. He looks like a lawyer representing a hillbilly meth gang. He does not seem ill at ease as he was in Toronto. He's happy to share space with these disheveled weirdos, most of whom have more bro-tastic energy than two Brett Lawries. And Lawrie drove Farrell nuts.

Clearly, he felt that the job in Toronto was another way station on the trek uphill. Boston is the peak. Maybe that's allowed him to exhale.

I'm not sure if this makes me like Farrell less or much less. You have to give it to a guy who's capable of a complete re-wiring in middle age — it's a rare ability in any leader.


After being standoff-ish with media in Toronto, John Farrell seems to have let his hair down in Boston. GETTY IMAGES

Farrell used Toronto to work out the kinks in his professional personality. The Red Sox get the benefit of that growth.

Never loved the guy, and never cared enough to hate him. Maybe if I spent time around him now, I could learn to (either way). And what would that say about me? That unlike John Farrell, I'm consistent.

Go to metronews.ca for more from Cathal Kelly on John Farrell.

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[†]Representative bi-weekly finance example: 2013 Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2DEX) on an 84 month term with 182 bi-weekly payments at 1.99% APR [including $1,600 Finance incentive and $431 individual dealer contribution deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes]. Incentives apply only to Finance contracts through HFS, and can be combined with subvented rates of interest offered by Honda as part of a low rate interest program. Complete price of $16,970. Cost of borrowing is $1,077.28 for a total finance obligation of $16,016.28 with $0 down or equivalent trade-in. *$500 Honda Dollars offer applies only to retail customer purchase or lease agreements for new 2013 Civic and 2013 Fit models concluded between October 1st, 2013 and October 31st, 2013 at participating Ontario Honda Dealers. Deducted from the negotiated price after taxes and can be combined with advertised lease and finance rates. See sales associate for eligible products & services applicable to Honda Dollars offer redemption. [^]Limited time 0.99% APR lease offers on remaining new 2013 Fit DX (Model GE8G2DEX) // 2013 Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2DEX) // 2013 CR-Z // 2013 Accord EX Coupe 6MT (Model CT1A7DJ) // 2013 Accord LX Sedan 6MT (Model CR2E3DE) // 2013 CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3DES) for a maximum of 24 // 24 // 24 // 36 // 24 // 36 months. Representative lease example: 2013 Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2DEX) on a 24 month term at 0.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $280.84 with $0 down or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $6,740.16. 48,000-kilometre allowance: charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. [µ]Receive 0.99% APR purchase financing on remaining new 2013 Fit DX (Model GE8G2DEX) // 2013 Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2DEX) // 2013 CR-Z // 2013 Accord EX Coupe 6MT (Model CT1A7DJ) // 2013 Accord LX Sedan 6MT (Model CR2E3DE) // 2013 CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3DES) models for a maximum of 36 // 48 // 24 // 48 // 24 // 48 months. Representative finance example: 2013 Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2DEX) on a 24 month term at 0.99% APR and complete price of $16,970, the monthly payment is $714.40. Cost of borrowing is $175.60 for a total finance obligation of $17,145.60 with $0 down or equivalent trade-in. *$1,500 // $1,500 // $2,000 // $1,500 // $2,000 // $3,500 // $2,000 // $2,500 // $4,000 // $5,000 // $5,000 customer cash incentive is valid any new 2013 Fit (except DX, model GE8G2DEX) // 2013 Civic Coupe and Sedan (except DX Sedan, model FB2E2DEX) // 2013 Accord Coupe (except EX Coupe 6MT, model CTA7DJ) // 2013 Accord Sedan (except LX Sedan 6MT, EX-L V6 Sedan and Touring V6 Sedan, models CR2E3DE, CR3F8DJN and CR3F9DKN) // 2013 Accord EX-L V6 Sedan and Touring V6 Sedan // 2013 Crosstour EX 2WD and EX-L 2WD (models TF3H3DJ, TF3H5DJNX) // 2013 Crosstour EX-L 4WD and EX-L 4WD NAVI (models TF2H5DJNX, TF2H5DKNX) // 2013 CR-V (except LX 2WD, model RM3H3DES) // 2013 Odyssey // 2013 Pilot // 2013 Ridgeline models when registered and delivered between October 1st and October 31st, 2013. Cash incentive is available for all Honda retail customers except customers who lease or finance through HFS at a subvented rate of interest offered by Honda as part of a low rate interest program. All advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Cash incentive will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. For all offers: license, insurance, PPSA, other taxes (including HST) and excess wear and tear are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. [**]Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2012. [∞]Based on Fuel Consumption Guide ratings from Natural Resources Canada. Transport Canada approved test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors – use for comparison only.

The 2014 Mazda3

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

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Base price: $17,700

2 Ford Focus
Base price: $17,650

Review. What looks and drives like a much more expensive car? The 2014 Mazda 3

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

You have to expect the unexpected when taking the wheel of the 2014 Mazda3. With seductive looks, comfortable accommodations and impeccable road manners, Mazda's redesigned compact punches well above its weight class when battling the other members of the compact-car field.

Original Mazda3 variations that first arrived for the 2004 model year displayed plenty of swagger and backed it up with surprising levels of basic, down-to-earth goodness. Since then, both sedan and Sport hatchback versions (including the hotrod Mazdaspeed3) have remained popular with legions of folks seeking a car that's as enjoyable to drive as it is to look at.

The new models emulate the mid-size Mazda6 sedan and the CX-5 wagon, which means they no longer wear Cheshire-cat grins affixed to their snouts. Instead, both have adopted Mazda's latest Kodo (Japanese for Soul of Motion) design approach that includes an attractive but less gimmicky grille. The rest of the bodywork is equally tasty from any vantage point.

What has been stretched by six centimetres, however, is the distance between the front and rear wheels. Overall though, the sedan remains similar in total length and provides about the same trunk space, while the hatchback drops five centimetres in length, but magically gains a fair bit of stowage room, whether the rear seats are upright or folded flat.

For the driver there's a single round gauge pod and attendant control knobs and switches that are the essence of simplicity. An 18-centimetre multi-function touch-screen that's perched atop the dashboard's mid-section allows for easy scanning without taking one's eyes off the horizon. An optional heads-up display projects speed and basic directions onto the windshield, again without diverting the driver's attention away from the road. Like its Mazda6 and CX-5 brand mates, the Mazda3 benefits from the automaker's so-called SkyActiv suite of structural and powertrain enhancements. The former includes a stiffer platform as well as suspension and steering components specifically tuned for sports-car-like precision.

But the real show stoppers are the powerplants. The base engine is a 2.0-litre four-cylinder that makes 155 horsepower and 150 pound-feet of torque. Optional is a 2.5-litre four-cylinder with 184 horsepower and 185 pound-feet of torque. Both are available with six-speed manual transmissions, while six-speed automatics are optional.

The optional "i-ELOOP" capacitor charges with electricity during braking to run the 3's various components for extended periods. This means the alternator can be disengaged, thereby cutting drag on the engine. The i-ELOOP functions in the background without the driver being aware of it.

Mazda3 prices start at $17,700 for the base GX sedan that includes the usual power-operated accessories plus push-button start. The base GX Sport hatchback starts at $18,700

Both bodystyles are also available in GS and GT trim, the latter fitted with enough standard and available comfort and safety content to rival many so-called luxury vehicles. Regardless of your choice, the new Mazda3 is an impressive piece of work that will be appreciated by those who really enjoy driving something sporty, but without the space limitations that traditional sports cars impose. And we can all live with that.

2014 Mazda3

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan/hatchback
- **Engines (hp).** 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (155); 2.5-litre DOHC I4 (184)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual; six-speed automatic
- **Base price (incl. destination)** $17,700

Fuel Economy

Interestingly, both engines are closely matched in fuel consumption, with the nod going to the 2.0's official rating, with the automatic transmission, of 6.7 l/100 km in the city and 4.7 on the highway. The 2.5 rings up 7.5/5.4, but both numbers improve to 7.1/5.0 with the optional "i-ELOOP" capacitor.

Design

Although the car's front overhang appears more elongated, Mazda's California studio design manager Ken Saward emphatically states that isn't the case and the 3's slightly wider body (by 4.1 centimetres) and a lowered hood are largely responsible for the illusion.

Creative German gem making Kia sparkle

Autoknow. Artist Peter Schreyer worked for Audi and Volkswagen before being lured to 'a whole new world' in Korea

LISA CALVI
wheelbasemedia.com

Peter Schreyer. ALL IMAGES WHEELBASE

The new Cadenza, one of Schreyer's creations, is the largest and most luxurious Kia model to date.

If you haven't noticed, Kia cars have a different look. A different feel. A certain elegance they never had before. And there are new models. Different models. Bigger ones. Look at the new Cadenza.

What's going on over there, anyway? Well, perhaps it has something to with indulging in art a bit. Painter Pablo Picasso said that every child is an artist. "The problem is how to remain an artist when one grows up."

Peter Schreyer, a grown man of 60 years, doesn't have a whole lot of trouble with that. He paints at home — a lot — and then there's his day job as chief designer for Kia.

He's the person behind the styling of all the hot cars from the Korean automaker such as the Rio and the Optima. You could even say that he's the primary reason Kia sales are soaring.

Talent aside, one of the most interesting pieces of this story is that Schreyer is not Korean; he's German. Schreyer actually has a 25-year history with Audi and Volkswagen and began his automotive design career with Audi, working there while he was a student at the Royal College of Art in London, staying on once he had graduated. He was chief designer of Audi from 1994-'02, where he was instrumental in pushing the company to the international forefront as a premium brand. The original Audi TT? His baby, as were the A3 and A6 of those years. From 2002-'05, he was chief designer of Volkswagen and in 2005 he became Head of Advanced Design of Volkswagen. In late 2006, Kia Motors wooed him away.

Another of Schreyer's designs is the Kia Rio. He also designed the Audi 8 and TT.

He maintains his home in Germany but commutes, obviously quite regularly, to Kia's corporate headquarters in Seoul and design studios in Hwaseong, South Korea and Irvine, Calif. Since his tenure began at Kia, he thinks the brand has finally come into its own. "Kia now has a personality; an identity," said Schreyer in a phone interview, "a lot more than it had before. It is a big achievement. I feel the brand has gone from anonymous to more distinct, recognizable as Kia. The 'tiger nose' grille, as we call it, is an identifier for the brand."

Favourites

"If I was going to point to specific vehicles, it would be the Optima, the Rio and of course, the TT and Audi A8."

Germany's Peter Schreyer, chief designer for Kia who formerly worked for Audi

The process is ongoing but this dramatic upswing in Kia's popularity, branding and sales is one of Schreyer's proudest achievements, the other being the work done at Audi during the era that he was Chief Designer. His favourite design job?

"If I was going to point to specific vehicles, it would be the Optima, the Rio and of course, the TT and Audi A8."

Schreyer believes that good design is only good if the product is technically good. If he is next to one of "his" vehicles at a traffic light, he says he looks inside to see if the driver and passengers look happy in it. The product has to hold the promise. "I have to want to drive the vehicles as well. Designers are customers too."

Obviously there are huge cultural differences between Korea and Germany and Schreyer might be the only person who can point them out as it relates to car building.

Whole new world

"Working with Korea and Kia, I've discovered that there is a whole other world of making cars. I didn't know about this world."

Germany's Peter Schreyer, chief designer for Kia who formerly worked for Audi

"When I was working with Volkswagen and Audi, I was on my home turf. I grew up in a German/European car culture. Perhaps there is an arrogance that there is nothing outside of that culture. That other cultures can't have a car culture.

"Working with Korea and Kia, I've discovered that there is a whole other world of making cars. I didn't know about this world. I discovered that there are people outside of the European car culture that are very skilled, eager to make great cars." He also admires the speed with which Korean executives act once a decision is made, despite the multi-layered management that must be consulted before getting a go-ahead on an idea.

Perhaps Schreyer is impressed with speed because he's a bit of a speed demon himself. "As a kid, growing up in the Alps with a mother who was into competitive skiing, it was a natural choice at an early age and also skeleton racing at a competitive level. You might not even know what that is."

Actually, no, but it's a sport where one dives head first down a steep hill on a small sled. Painting seems like such a huge contrast to that, but that's how he relaxes. He says that if he were to retire today, painting is what he would do. He even hopes to have an exhibition some day.

The question of the hour? What does he have parked in his garage.

"In Frankfurt, I have a Rio. Where my family home is, I have a Sportage; I really love this vehicle. When I go to Korea, I have a chauffeur because it's so hard to find my way around and I drive a K7, which is the Cadenza in the North American market."

Although he's not divulging any secrets, the secret is out that Kia is as passionate when it comes to design as the man leading the charge.

"The job is stressful, yes. But I love my job so it's a good stress."

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Come on, would Infiniti steer you the wrong way?

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The Infiniti Q50. BOTH PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Driving force. How automaker connects with the driver by disconnecting the steering wheel

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

At one time, cars all had manual steering, and it took brute force to muscle them into a parking spot. Then came power steering, which used a hydraulic pump to lighten the effort, and then electric power steering, which replaced the pump with an electric motor.

Infiniti has now introduced its Direct Adaptive Steering, or DAS, a completely electronic system that uses "steer-by-wire" instead of an actual connection between the steering wheel and the front tires. The system debuts on the all-new Infiniti Q50 sports sedan.

"One of the primary advantages is the ability to change the character of the car," says Tim Franklin, senior manager of product planning for Infiniti Canada. "We're able to affect how heavy the wheel feels and how quickly it turns. If you're on a long road trip you'll want a relaxed drive, or a spirited drive on a back road."

Extras

- Electronic steering systems can be used in safety systems, including guiding a vehicle back if the driver inadvertently crosses out of the lane.
- The Q50's system "tunes out" vibrations caused by rough pavement for a smoother driver.

The system uses actuators on the steering wheel and on the steering rack, along with a central control unit. When the driver turns the wheel, the wheel actuator sends the information to the control unit. This unit, in turn, sends information to the actuator on the steering rack, telling it how far to turn the tires. Infiniti says that the steering response is much faster than with a conventional mechanical connection.

Through a central touchscreen, the driver can set the steering feel, ranging from sporty to comfort. The steering wheel actuator adjusts the steering weight — the amount of force it takes to move the wheel. More weight gives a sportier feel, while less weight makes for a relaxing drive.

The system also changes the steering ratio, which determines how far you have to turn the wheel. A "quick" ratio moves the tires farther when the wheel is turned a little, producing a sporty feel where the driver doesn't have to spin the steering wheel as much to go around curves. A slower ratio is preferable for highway driving, since it takes less effort and concentration to keep the car centred in the lane.

Although there's no mechanical link during normal driving, the Q50's system has a fail-safe. If the car's electrical power fails, a clutch on the steering column instantly connects the steering wheel to the rack so the driver remains in control.

"The Q50 is still a sports sedan at its core, and customers want a sporty feel, but they also take it on road trips," Franklin says. "Instead of splitting (the feel) and making a compromise, DAS lets them tailor it to how they want to drive."

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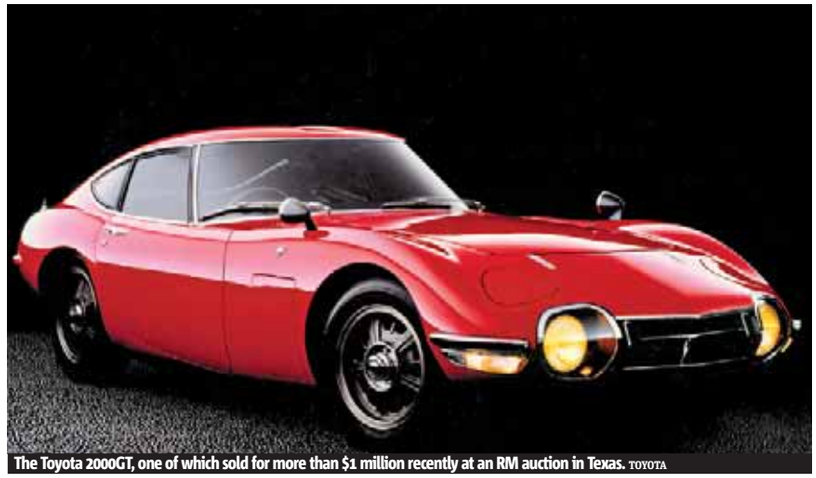
Welcome to the land of the rising sports car price


The Toyota 2000GT, one of which sold for more than $1 million recently at an RM auction in Texas. TOYOTA

Autopilot. Following the landmark $1.2m sale of a Japanese model the cost of them will now only shoot upward

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Not that long ago the only Japanese car you'd likely see at an upper-crusty classic car gathering was maybe the 2001 Camry station wagon belonging to the caterer. Now, vintage Japanese sports cars are suddenly highly sought after and hot.

This spring, at a RM Auctions in Texas, a 1967 Toyota 2000GT traded hands for $1,155,000 — the highest price ever paid at auction for a Japanese production car.

That result definitely got the notice of the collector car market, says RM Auctions' Don Rose, who specializes in Aston Martin and other European sports and GT cars produced between 1945 and 1985, but he is also deeply interested in the potential of Japanese machinery.

"I think it's an important part of the collector market," says Rose. He notes that while many in the collector car market harboured a stigma about Japanese vintage vehicles, he was never among them. "I am very bullish on the future of these Japanese cars."

Top Japanese Collectibles

- **1)** 1967 Toyota 2000GT $1M (more or less)
- **2)** 1967-68 Mazda Cosmo Sport $75,000 to $125,000
- **3)** 1969-73 & 1989-2002 Nissan Skyline GT-R $25,000 to $125,000
- **4)** 1991-2005 Acura NSX $30,000 to $50,000
- **5)** 1970-1973 Datsun 240Z $15,000 to $50,000

*Approximate value in American dollars for best-condition vehicles

After the 1967 Toyota 2000GT, of which only 351 were made, the most sought after Japanese collectible is the 1967 to 1968 Mazda Cosmo Sport, the world's first sports car powered by a rotary engine. It just so happens, Rose owns an example of both the 2000GT and the Cosmo Sport. The Mazda was never imported to North America. He figures there might only be 10 or so currently in North America. Mazda Canada has one, and so does Jay Leno.

"Beyond those two, you sort of pull yourself into another generation of vehicles," says Rose. Spearheading the generation is the Nissan Skyline GT-R (1969-73, 1989-2002), made famous by film and video game appearances, drifting fame and being the subject of all-out lust by youngsters who had posters of the GT-R on their bedroom walls when they were growing up.

A Skyline GT-R is a perfect example of a "JDM vehicle," one built (virtually) exclusively for the Japanese Domestic Market. "There are a whole lot of hot-rod JDM cars out there that are very interesting," says Rose. "(They are) well engineered, quick, fun to drive, and well made."

But the trick might be getting your hands on a prized JDM vehicle. "The Japanese tend to hold them very closely," says Rose. "It's almost like not wanting local treasures to go abroad." The collecting of "JDM vehicles" is in a nascent stage here in North America, reckons Rose. It certainly hasn't reached the "RM Auctions level," which revolves around top-rank collectible vehicles. But he figures it could reach that prime level in five years or so, citing the generation X demographic at play here.

"It's the guys who might be 35 to 40 now, and reaching a point in their careers where they might have some spare change to buy these cars — cars they coveted when they were kids." Isn't that just the way it always happens? Kid puts poster of car on wall, man he becomes buys the car on the poster in mid-life after he finally got some bucks to throw around. There must be a better way.

Infiniti's Gs are reliable sports models

Second gear.
2006-2013
Infiniti G35/G37

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

The latest iteration of the Infiniti G lineup offered Canadian shoppers sedan, coupe and convertible variants, available all-wheel-drive (AWD) and a higher-performing Infiniti Performance Line (IPL) variant of the coupe or convertible models. Selection in this Japanese premium model range was world-class. Available feature content included Bluetooth and multimedia connectivity, adaptive xenon lights, climate-controlled leather seats with memory, keyless engine start, a premium BOSE stereo system, sunroof, driver computer and plenty more.

Common issues

Though the G model range appears to be a highly reliable and confidence-inspiring used-car buy, a few pre-purchase checks are advised. Owners say their exterior finishes are "good, not great" where durability is concerned, so be sure to check for signs of excessive wear. Earlier machines in this generation may have "bubbling" in the seat material, peeling or chipping steering-wheel trim or an instrument cluster that's bubbling upwards or lifting away. Other niggling issues relate to condensation or water inside of the headlight assemblies, and an annoying, rattling or buzzing sound from the muffler area of 2008 G37 models. A squealing or screeching sound from the lower area of the windshield is likely a bad piece of weather strip, and the sound can be eliminated with a bit of lubricant or the installation of some felt tape. Note that a slight to moderate amount of noise from the clutch is considered normal — though slippage or harshness is not, and should be treated as excessive wear until a mechanic confirms otherwise. A trip to a coin-operated car wash or good soak down with a garden hose can provide peace of mind that the G37 Convertible model in question isn't leaking.

CONTRIBUTED

What owners like

G owners tend to rave about an all-around balance of performance and comfort, looks, a well-appointed cabin and the great-sounding, strong acceleration delivered by the bigger V6 engines.

What owners dislike

Rear seat headroom, especially on coupe models, was a common gripe point, as were higher-than-expected levels of road noise on some models. Most owners wish for better fuel consumption, too.

Engine

Infiniti's G models were all V6 powered. Units were available displacing 2.5 and 3.5 litres, depending on the model selected. The vast majority of models in the used market will have the more popular 3.7 litre V6. Note that the number following the "G" indicates engine displacement — for instance, G25, G35 and G37, in our case. An "X" designation was worn by models with AWD, and an "S" designation was given to models with the sport package.

The verdict

Issues all appear to be easily diagnosed and repaired, and no major or systematic problems were reported with enough frequency to cause alarm. Find the G that's right for you, get it inspected fully, and start enjoying what appears to be one of the most reliable used premium sports models on the road.

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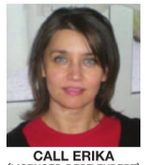

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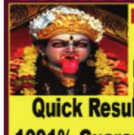

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You may be suspicious of someone's motives but don't go public about them just yet. There is a chance you are jumping at shadows. Do some checking before your talk.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You will have a change of heart about someone you have not seen eye-to-eye with in recent weeks. Whatever your initial disagreement, it is clear the feud has gone on too long. Let bygones be bygones.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You need to get the balance right between the time you spend working and having fun. The Sun's change of signs today warns you may have to focus more on work for a while .

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
One of the best times of the year begins for you today and you are eager to get started. But don't throw yourself into something new without thinking about it. What is it you are most creative at? Do that.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
There may be some animosity between you and someone you have to deal with on a day-to-day basis but don't let it get out of hand. Remember that in the greater scheme of things, we all have a role to play.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Keep your ideas to yourself for a few days. If your rivals get an inkling of what you're planning, they may try to beat you to it. You don't want to have to start before you're ready.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Try not to be offended if someone tells you how to run your life today. They only want to be helpful, even though as far as you are concerned they clearly don't know what they are talking about. Play nice.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
What's done is done and cannot be undone, so put what happened yesterday and the day before out of your mind. The Sun moves into your sign today, making this the perfect time to begin anew.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Your main priority now must be to clear all the junk from your life. There's far too much of it. If it's not essential, get rid of it. The less you possess, the more you will accomplish.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Do you care what others think about you? You probably care too much and it's time to put their opinions out of your head and do only what pleases you.

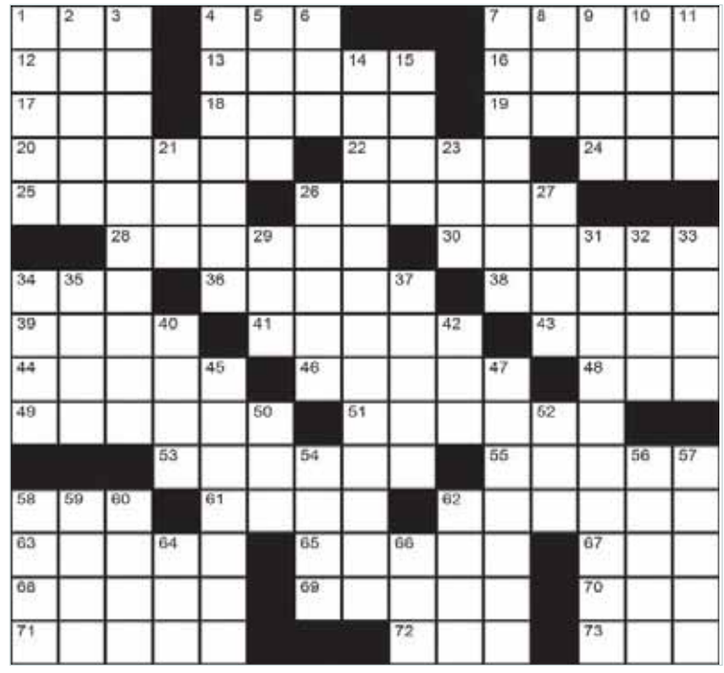
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The Sun crosses the career angle of your chart today, so it won't be long before you are moving up in the world. First though there are tough decisions to be made. Who and what do you really want to be?

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Planets indicate you're thinking of moving away from where you are now, maybe physically or mentally but certainly emotionally. The more you accept change, the more you'll be rewarded. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

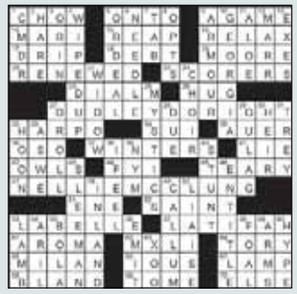
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. One __ _ time
4. Sea, in Sherbrooke
7. Was concerned
12. Void, in Montreal
13. Putting into service
16. Lecture from the podium
17. Caesar's 551
18. Sewing kit item
19. Take the top off
20. Elegant touch
22. Soup morsel
24. East: French
25. Ben Heppner's music
26. Pinnacle
28. Fireplace feature
30. Fancily attired
34. Type of antelope
36. Kind of roof
38. Boorish being in Jonathan Swift's novel Gulliver's Travels
39. Geological periods
41. Holy __
43. Yearn
44. Mountain lakes
46. Accountant's review
48. Rug of Scandinavia
49. Drove off the housefly
51. Sizzling
53. Scribe
55. Salts sort
58. SNL part, for short
61. Concept
62. Enchanted attraction
63. Oscar Peterson's instrument
65. Commence
67. Rock-__ (Classic jukebox company)
68. "Bon voyage!"
69. Luciano Pavarotti
70. "The Adventures of __ Tin Tin" ('50s TV series)
71. Is cheese, does this when heated
72. High card
73. Bryan Adams song: "The Best Was __ to Come"

Down
1. "Well... yes __ __."
(Indecisive response)
2. Autumn-planted bulb
3. Canadian author born in Wingham, ON: 2 wds. (See #14-Down and #31-Down for more)
4. Ford sports car
5. Spot
6. Copacabana city
7. Shania Twain's music
8. Prince Valiant's son
9. Sprint
10. Flight schedule acronyms
11. Grocery area, for short
14. Swedish-given international honouree's title since 1901: 2 wds.
15. Hidden valley
21. Cenozoic, for one
23. Assistance
26. Something striped
27. Mend
29. Price-putting place
31. Literary work: 2 wds.
32. Big name in TVs
33. __ mat
34. Acquires
35. Old Testament sailor
37. Downy duck
40. Fairytaledom's Miss White
42. Pickle jar topper
45. Really not joking
47. Play-putting-on place
50. Fared
52. Ancient Roman harvest goddess
54. See if it works
56. "Kukla, Fran and __" (Classic puppet TV show)
57. Stood for something
58. Canned meat
59. Military assistant, __-de-camp
60. Pin the __ on the Donkey
62. Alligator-looking creature, commonly
64. Goalkeeper's guardee
66. Anecdotal collection (abbvr.)

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

7				3			5	4
2	4		7				9	
		5	4		1	7		
		7		6		9	8	
5			3		9			1
	6	9		1		2		
		3	6		5	8		
	5				3		7	9
6	9			2				3

Yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	6	4	8	1	3	9	5
1	9	5	2	7	3	8	6	4
8	4	3	5	6	9	1	2	7
9	5	1	8	3	2	7	4	6
3	6	8	7	4	5	9	1	2
2	7	4	9	1	6	5	3	8
5	3	7	1	2	4	6	8	9
6	8	2	3	9	7	4	5	1
4	1	9	6	5	8	2	7	3

Today
8°/3°
Variable

Thursday
8°/2°
Showers
60%

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The Friends of the Library, Trinity College
38th Annual Book Sale
October 24-28, 2013

Thurs Oct 24, 4-9pm*
Fri Oct 25, 10am-8pm
Sat Oct 26, 10am-8pm
Sun Oct 27, 12pm-8pm
Mon Oct 28, 10am - 8pm
*$5 Admission Thurs; Free Fri-Mon

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ENDS OCT. 31ST

ALL TREATS, NO TRICKS

FACTORY AUTHORIZED CLEAROUT!

ON IN-STOCK MODELS

Rondo EX Luxury shown△

THE ALL-NEW 2014 RONDO

HWY (M/T): 6.2L/100KM
CITY (M/T): 9.4L/100KM

7 PASSENGER SEATING AVAILABLE

WAS ~~$131~~ BI-WEEKLY AT 0% APR

INCLUDES **$1,500 CASH BONUS‡**

NOW ONLY **$123**≠ BI-WEEKLY

PAY¤ UNTIL 2014

Bi-weekly for 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$1,500 CASH BONUS.** Offer based on 2014 Rondo LX MT with a purchase price of **$23,893.** Excludes HST.

Sorento EX shown△

THE NEW 2014 SORENTO

AVAILABLE ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

HWY (A/T): 7.1L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 10.4L/100KM

7 PASSENGER SEATING AVAILABLE

WAS ~~$159~~ BI-WEEKLY AT 0% APR

INCLUDES **$750 CASH BONUS‡**

NOW ONLY **$155**≠ BI-WEEKLY

PAY¤ UNTIL 2014

Bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$750 CASH BONUS.** Offer based on 2014 Sorento 2.4L LX AT FWD with a purchase price of **$28,893.** Excludes HST.

Sportage SX shown△

2013 SPORTAGE

HWY (A/T): 6.5L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 9.7L/100KM

AVAILABLE ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

WAS ~~$133~~ BI-WEEKLY AT 0% APR

$1,000 EXISTING DISCOUNT + **$500 CASH BONUS‡**

NOW ONLY **$125**≠ BI-WEEKLY

Bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** Offer includes delivery, destination, fees, **$1,000 LOAN SAVINGS** and **$500 CASH BONUS.** Offer based on 2013 Sportage 2.4L LX MT FWD with a purchase price of **$24,178.** Excludes HST.

Optima SX Turbo shown△

2013 OPTIMA

HWY (A/T): 5.6L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 8.6L/100KM

WAS ~~$132~~ BI-WEEKLY AT 0% APR

$1,000 EXISTING DISCOUNT + **$500 CASH BONUS‡**

NOW ONLY **$124**≠ BI-WEEKLY

Bi-weekly for 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** Offer includes delivery, destination, fees, **$1,000 LOAN SAVINGS** and **$500 CASH BONUS.** Offer based on 2013 Optima LX MT with a purchase price of **$23,983.** Excludes HST.

5 Year Warranty

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED
*5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

Best Global Brands 2012 Interbrand

KIA ENTERS 50 BEST GLOBAL GREEN BRANDS. Best Global Green Brand 2013

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Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees, dealer admin. fee up to $399 and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include licensing or applicable taxes.

KIA

The Power to Surprise

Offer(s) available on select new 2013/2014 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery by October 31, 2013. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,665, $34 tire recycling/filter charges, $5 OMVIC fee, environmental fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399) and $100 A/C charge (where applicable) and excludes licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. 0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013/2014 Kia models O.A.C. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. ¤™Don't Pay Until 2014" offer (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing on select new 2014 models. No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest accrues and the purchaser will repay both the principal and interest monthly over the contract's term. ≠Bi-weekly finance payment O.A.C. for new 2014 Sorento 2.4L LX AT FWD (SR75BE)/2014 Rondo LX MT (RN65IE)/2013 Optima LX MT (OP541D)/2013 Sportage 2.4L LX MT FWD (SP551D) based on a selling price of $28,893/$23,893/$23,983/$24,178 is $155/$123/$124/$125 with an APR of 0% for 60/84/84/60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Offer includes loan savings of $0/$0/$1,000/$1,000. Estimated remaining principal balance of $8,041/$0/$0/$6,479 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. ‡All offers include current savings and Factory Authorized Clearout Cash Bonus of $500 on 2013MY Soul, 2013MY Optima Gas., 2013MY Optima Hybrid, 2014MY Forte 4dr, 2014MY Cadenza, 2014MY Sedona, 2013MY Sportage; $750 Cash Bonus on 2014MY Sorento, and $1,500 Cash Bonus on 2014MY Rondo when you purchase, lease or finance a new 2013/2014 Kia. The Factory Authorized Clearout Cash Bonus is only available on all in-stock inventory. $500/$750/$1,500 Bonus has been applied to purchase/lease/finance Sale Price and/or Payments. Offer available at participating dealers on in-stock vehicles only. Delivery must be taken during the program period. Winter Ready Credit and Factory Authorized Clearout Cash Bonus are not combinable. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Offer ends October 31st, 2013. △Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2014 Sorento 3.3L EX AT AWD (SR75HE)/2014 Rondo EX Luxury (RN756E)/2013 Optima SX Turbo AT (OP748D)/2013 Sportage 2.0T SX Navigation (SP759D) is $34,195/$32,195/$35,550/$39,145. ^ Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2014 Sorento LX 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2014 Rondo 2.0L GDI 4-cyl (M/T)/2013 Optima 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2013 Sportage 2.4L MPI 4-cyl (A/T). These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.